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NASA STI-RECON Bulletin & Tech Info News

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Scientific and Technical Information Branch

May 1983

Bulletin to Cover STI Activities

Beginning with this issue, the Bulletin will cover developments in NASA scientific and technical information (STI) projects, products, and services of concern to our users. NASA/RECON will continue to be covered as before. Readers are invited to contribute items that other users of NASA STI will find useful. Send or telephone them to John Wilson at Headquarters (FTS 755-3465/Commercial 202-755-3465) or Philip F. Eckert at the Facility (301) 859-5300.

Recent Changes in the STI Branch

Buford Smith has been named Head, Systems and Retrieval Section (NIT-42).

Kay Voglewede has been named Acting Head, Technical Publications Section (NIT-43), following the death of Frank Rowsome.

James Phillips, Head, Program and Analysis Section (NIT-41), has assumed the Library Administrator's activities following the death of Albert String. It is anticipated that a new Library Administrator will be recruited.

Continuing Bibliographies under Review

As a result of a survey of NASA Centers and contractors, a review is being initiated of several regularly issued bibliographies to determine how their usefulness might be improved. As a first step the quarterly Earth Resources (NASA SP-7041) is being reviewed by the Office of Space Science and Applications. Others planned to be reviewed include Energy(NASA SP-7043), also quarterly, and Aerospace Medicine and Biology(NASA SP-7037) and Aeronautical Engineering(NASA SP-7037), both monthly. Centers and recipients of these publications are being asked to participate.

Access to NASA/RECON

NASA has continued to expand online access to NASA/RECON. Included are government agencies and their contractors, and universities whose scientific and engineering activities relate to aeronautics and space research. Therefore, your organization may be qualified to gain online access on a reimbursable basis.

Over two million citations (1.7 million documents and 440,000 books) are accessible online via the NASA/RECON system. NASA/RECON was developed initially to serve the NASA Centers and for technology transfer through the various Industrial Application Centers. Access to NASA/RECON not only includes the NASA organizations but also over 150 users on a reimbursable basis. These users pay an annual maintenance fee to cover training, textual material, and technical support. They also pay online charges and communications cost. Charges effective January 1, 1983 are:

Maintenance Fee	$120.00	First year
Maintenance Fee	60.00	2nd & subsequent year
Search Time	20.00	Connect hour
Citation Print	.05	Each printed at Facility
Telenet	7.00	Connect hour

25th Anniversary 1958-1983

Multilingual Aeronautical Dictionary

This unique source book contains 876 pages of the latest lexicon of aeronautical research and development. It provides users with 7319 terms, which are defined in English and translated into equivalent terms in Italian, French, Spanish, Greek, Dutch, German, Russian, Turkish, and Portuguese. The dictionary also includes a list of 4000 often-used English-language acronyms and abbreviations, many space-related, with their definitions.

The dictionary was developed by the Technical Information Panel of the Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development (AGARD), an agency of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Scientists and engineers from the NATO nations pooled their linquistic and technical expertise to select the terms for inclusion, prepare the definitions, and provide translated equivalents.

Now, you can add this 876-page Multilingual Aeronautical Dictionary to your library for only $98.50, including postage and handling. You will receive a handsome, hardbound volume, superbly designed for years of helpful reference. Gold lettering is stamped onto the deep-blue hardbound cover. Available from NITS.

Chemical Substances Information Network (CSIN)

The Chemical Substances Information Network (CSIN) developed by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Council for Environmental Quality, is well on its way to becoming a national chemical information system. R&D staf members and managers at Headquarters and the Centers may find it useful.

CSIN is a distributed network of coordinated online information systems designed to satisfy the need for information concerning chemical substances. CSIN provides access to nomenclature and composition; properties; production and commerce; products and uses; exposure, effects, studies and research; regulations, laws, and controls. Problems of data base administration and management, such as limited access and charging mechanisms, are being dealt with, and provide guidelines for data base managers. Potential users are federal and state agencies, industry, universities, and R&D institutions. Millions of records are available online.

For further information, call:

Dr. Sidney Siegel, Administrator
Chemical Substances Information Network
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20460
Telephone: 202-382-2256

Free NACA & NASA Documents in Paper Copy

NACA and NASA duplicates of unclassified reports (several hundred) are now available from Princeton University. Receiver to pay shipping charges. Contact Ms. Dee Hoelle, Engineering Librarian, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544 (telephone: 609-452-3201) before July 15, 1983.

NASA/STI Surveys Completed

NASA's Scientific and Technical Information Branch has recently concluded two surveys of the relative value placed on NASA STI products and services. NASA Centers and contractors were queried. Since many products and services are without charge to system users, value-related feedback has to be simulated. A method was developed and tested to approximate this value; users in the NASA Centers and contractor organizations were asked to indicate the relative percentage value for each product, consisting the overall list of products as 100%.

Both Centers and contractors gave heavier relative value to major services. If STAR and IAA and their indexes are considered as one (as the published data base) compared to online RECON including NALNET, then approximately two-thirds of total relative value is allotted to major products. Approximately one-third is given all other products.

Highest preferences of Centers was for RECON, while contractor higher preferences were almost equal for RECON and STAR (20% and 19%). NASA STI users both at Centers and contractors, appeared to be signaling, both statistically and in intent, that they are going to depend more and more heavily upon online services.

The continuing bibliographies, SCAN (Selected Current Aerospace Notices, twice a month) and UPDATE (current awareness monthly) were low relative valued products for both Centers and contractors. UPDATE service (for NASA Centers and selected contractors for Hq., Langley, Ames, Lewis, and Goddard) has been expanded since the 1982 survey and would probably receive a higher rating if the survey were conducted today.

For further information, call John Wilson, (202) 755-3465.

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF NASA STI PRODUCTS

	NASA Centers		NASA Contractors
	Unweighted	Weighted*	
RECON Online Retrieval System	28	34	20
International Aerospace Abstracts (IAA)	6	5	9
Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports (STAR)	10	5	19
Continuing Bibliographies	2	1	5
Special Publications	7	8	6
NALNET (NASA Library Network)	14	16	4
Microfiche	13	15	5
Selected Current Aerospace Notices (SCAN)	6	5	8
Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports (STAR) Index	4	2	11
International Aerospace Abstracts (IAA) Index	3	2	6
Limited Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports (LSTAR)	2	2	4
UPDATE (Monthly Current Awareness)	4	4	3

*Simple average for the centers and averages weighted according to number of scientists and engineers.